

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrically-operated steering lock device having a lock shaft which is movable between a protrusion position where a steering shaft is locked and a retreat position where the steering shaft is unlocked, and lock shaft moving means coupled to an electric motor and serving for moving the lock shaft, the electrically-operated steering lock device further comprising: protrusion blocking means which is electrically driven and which, when the lock shaft is placed at a retreat position, engages with an engagement portion formed in the lock shaft to block protrusion of the lock shaft; and holding means for holding the protrusion blocking means to a position where protrusion of the lock shaft is blocked.

2. The electrically-operated steering lock device according to Claim 1, wherein the lock shaft moving means comprises a spring for biasing the lock shaft to a protrusion position, and an electrically-operated member which is to be engaged with an engagement recessed portion formed in the lock shaft to move the lock shaft to the retreat position.

3. The electrically-operated steering lock device according to Claim 1, wherein the protrusion blocking means is a solenoid having a plunger which is to be engaged with the engagement portion formed in the lock shaft.

4. The electrically-operated steering lock device according to Claim 1, wherein the lock shaft moving means enables the lock shaft to move to the protrusion position when the electric motor is rotated forward, and enables the
5 lock shaft to move to the retreat position when the electric motor is rotated reverse, and the holding means is the engagement portion formed in the lock shaft, and wherein, in a state that the engagement with the engagement
10 portion has been released by reverse rotation of the electric motor, the lock shaft is allowed to protrude by forward rotation of the electric motor.